**Ms. Scott’s Classroom Rules and Policies**

**Room 218**

[**escott@cbsd.org**](mailto:escott@cbsd.org)

**267.893. 2436**

**Welcome to Biology! My goal is for all of my students to succeed. There are some classroom rules and policies that need to be followed to ensure a positive learning environment. Biology is a difficult subject, but don’t be intimidated. I will use a variety of teaching strategies and activities to enable all students to learn and I will relate course material to real-world situations. Let’s have a great semester!!**

**6 Simple Steps to Help You Succeed in Biology:**

1. Come to Class!!!
2. Pay attention/be actively engaged
3. Participate!
4. Ask Questions
5. Get help when needed!!
6. Study and complete all assignments

**Rules**

* **Positive Attitude –** biology can be a difficult subject for many people. Don’t be intimidated. Every student in this classroom can succeed and enjoy this subject. We will relate most topics to areas of your life so be an active learner, ask questions, and get involved.
* **Respect** – to self, all students, staff, and guests in our classroom. Respect school property including books, computers, and any materials we will be using. I do not tolerate profanity, vulgarity, disrespect, discrimination, or any type of hateful speech or action.
* **Work ethic** – I expect everyone to do their best on every assignment. Take pride in your work. It should be neat and completed to the best of each individual’s ability. If you have a problem or question, ask someone, instead of receiving an incomplete grade for the assignment.
* **Be on time** – in all areas of life you will find that it is vital to be on time. It is important to be in your seat at the start of each class and to be prepared for class with required materials.
* **Listen** – Directions should be followed the first time they are given. When someone else is speaking you should be sitting in your seat quietly.
* **Safety** – in order to create a safe place to learn, follow directions and do not fool around. Labs will be performed in class so if there is a safety issue let me know immediately. Keep the classroom clean; throw away trash, clean up spills, clean up lab stations, etc…

**Policies**

* **Textbook: Biology, Prentice Hall** – Thebook must be covered. Each student is assigned a book, and the correct book should be returned on the last day of school in good condition or the student will be charged the cost of the textbook.
* **Biology notebook** – each student should keep an organized 3-ring notebook (I suggest 1.5 inches) --notes, worksheets, quizzes and tests should be kept in the notebook in sequential order. This will help keep materials together and allow for access to review and study. The notebook should ONLY contain biology work.
* **Journal** – We will keep a journal in class. You should get a 1-subject notebook, journal, or composition book that you will leave in the classroom at the end of the week to be graded. Every day you come to class there will be a prompt on the board – it might be a review question, a response to a current event, a reflection, or a question to get you thinking outside the box. The entries will be numbered 1, 2, 3… and you should include the question/prompt along with the answer.
* **Homework** – should be complete, neat, and turned in on time. Homework will be given a few nights a week. If no homework is assigned you should review your notes and go over key words. Assignments will be collected and graded. Late assignments will be given half credit. Incomplete work will result in a grade reduction.
* **Labs** – we will be performing labs to help supplement the class topic being covered. Labs will be formal labs or lab activities. Follow the specific format for formal labs. The labs are a time to use hands-on experience to reinforce a concept we are learning in class, please take them seriously and do not use it as a time to socialize or fool around. Questions from labs may appear on tests and/or quizzes.
* **Grades** – will be determined based on tests, quizzes, labs, projects, journals, participation, and homework.
* **Absences** – It is important that students are in class. If you are absent you are responsible for getting the work that was missed. Don’t interrupt class to get missed work, there will be folders labeled with the day of the week and worksheets/notes from that day of class will be placed in the folder. When you come back you should immediately go to the folder and get the work you missed. The school policy will be followed – the amount of days you were absent is the number of days you will have to make up work. You should copy the missed notes from a classmate and ask questions after the notes have been reviewed.
* **Pass** – if you need to use the bathroom, there will be a clipboard that you will fill out and have me initial before you leave the classroom. The time you leave and return should be filled in. If you need to leave the classroom for another reason (nurse, library, etc) I will fill out a pass for you.
* **Progress Reports** – will be given throughout the semester and should be signed by the student and a parent/guardian.
* **Lateness** – is unacceptable. Three tardies will result in a class cut write-up. If you come into class late for any reason you will fill out a sign-in sheet and write an explanation of why you were late. The pass should be placed into the box next to the sheet. This will help avoid interruptions and distractions during the middle of class.
* **Help** – if you are having trouble with a concept or struggling with an assignment, I will be available for help before and sometimes after school. Please check with me for availability.
* Cell phones/ipods – are not to be brought to class. The use of a cell phone or an ipod in this classroom will result in one warning. After the first warning, you will receive an administrative write-up.
* Class information – I have an online wikispace that will be used to post class information and assignments. There will be a calendar that shows all of the homework assignments, due dates, and test/quiz dates. There will be areas on the wikispace that contain study resources before tests. At times, we may use the wikispace to post responses on a discussion board.

**The web address is:** [**http://escott-biology.wikispaces.com**](http://escott-biology.wikispaces.com)

* **Eyewash – the eyewash is located in the back of the room next to the sink. Please ONLY turn on the eyewash during an emergency. Turning the eyewash on unnecessarily will result in disciplinary action.**

**School Enforced Rules**

* **We will follow all school rules**:
  + - Appropriate dress.
    - Zero tolerance for cheating and plagiarism.
    - Food should only be eaten in the cafeteria.

**Units:**

* **Skills and Processes (Chapter 1)**
  + Scientific Method
  + Characteristics of life
* **Molecules of Life (Chapter 2)**
  + Basic chemistry
  + pH Scale
  + Water
  + Organic molecules
* **Cells (Chapter 7 and 10)**
  + Cell structure and function
  + Cell growth and division (Mitosis and cancer)
  + Meiosis
  + Types of cells
* **Energy (Chapter 8 and 9)**
  + Photosynthesis
  + Cellular Respiration
* **Genetics (Chapters 11 – 14)**
  + Mendelian Genetics
  + DNA and RNA
  + Mutations/Disorders
* **Embryology (Chapters 29 & 36)**
  + Embryonic development
  + Stem cells/bio ethics
* **Microbiology (Chapter 19)**
  + Bacteria
  + Viruses

Student Assessments:

Tests/Quizzes: about 50% of marking period grades

Labs: about 15% of marking period grades

Homework: about 20% of marking period grades

Reading/writing assignments and Projects: about 15% of marking period grades

Final Grade: Each marking period grade = 40%

Grade Scale

100 – 93 A 79 – 77 C+

92 – 90 A- 76 – 73 C

89 – 87 B+ 72 – 70 C-

86 – 83 B 69 – 67 D+

82 – 80 B- 66 – 63 D

Cumulative Final Exam = 20%

Please sign to confirm that you received and have read Ms. Scott’s classroom rules and policies.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Email: [escott@cbsd.org](mailto:escott@cbsd.org)

Phone: 267.893.2436

I am looking forward to a great semester ☺

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent – Phone number and email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments/Questions – Is there anything I need to know about your child?**

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